Rubber World

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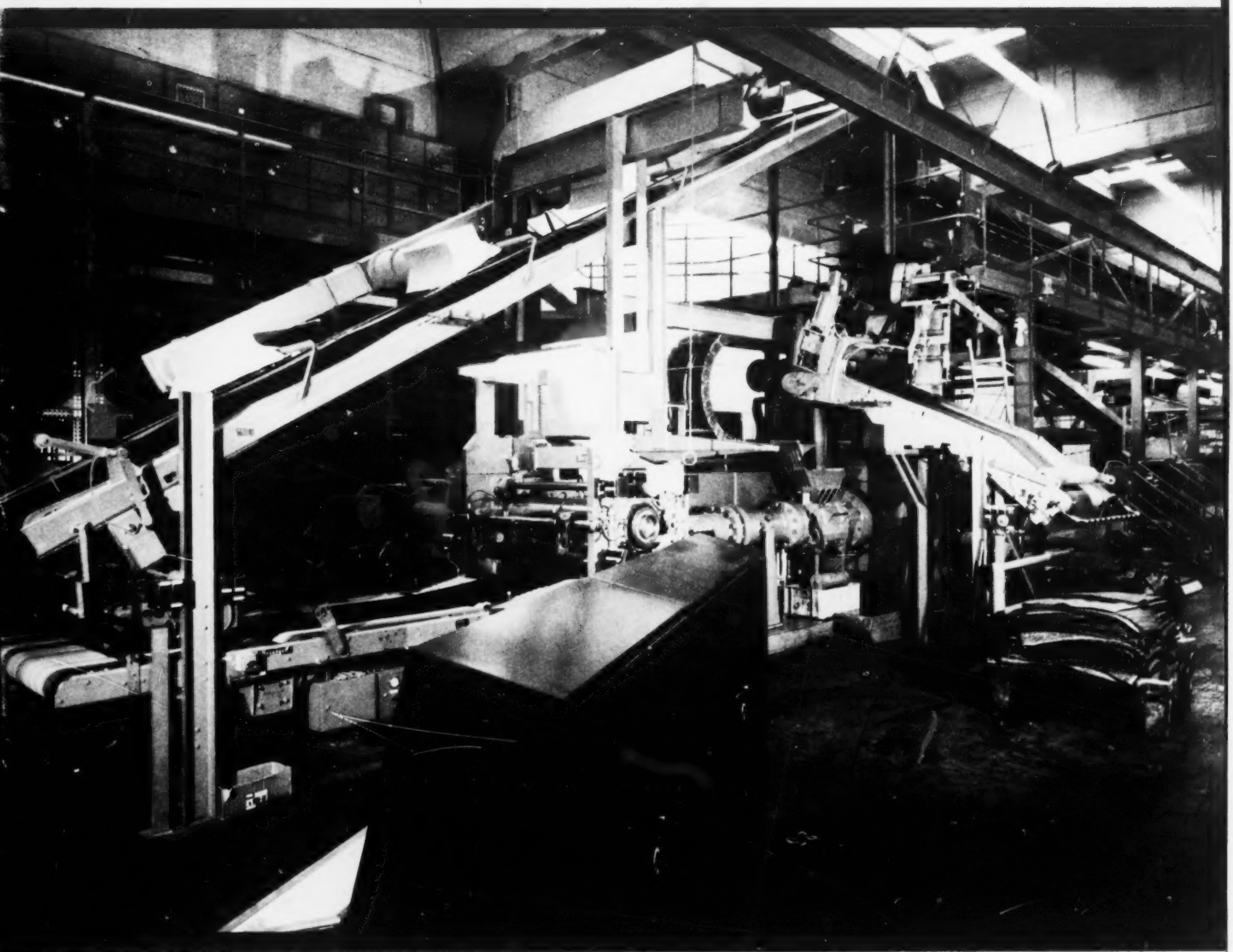
Roller head plant for innerliners



Neoprene blends for high performance innerliners

A new fluoroelastomer

Compounding ingredients price list

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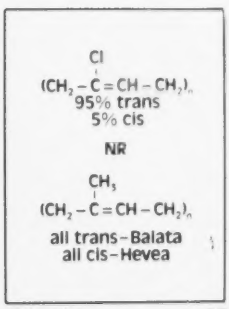

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Cover courtesy of Herman Berstorff Maschinenbau, West Germany.

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RMA monthly tire & tube shipments & production report through October 1983 (figures in thousands of units)

Passenger Tires	1983	1982	% Change
Shipments			
Original Equipment	35,694	28,472	+25.37
Radial	29,793	23,805	+25.15
Replacement	115,112	112,033	+2.75
Radial	79,895	73,084	+9.32
Export	3,358	2,367	+41.87
Radial	2,294	1,275	+79.92
Total	154,164	142,872	+7.90
Radial	111,982	98,164	+14.08
Production	130,888	126,673	+3.33
Radial	91,415	86,385	+5.82
Ending Inventory	26,150	31,456	−16.87
Radial	19,350	23,854	−18.88
Truck & Bus Tires			
Shipments			
Original Equipment	4,437	3,991	+11.18
Radial	2,055	1,583	+29.82
Replacement	25,216	23,712	+6.34
Radial	8,372	6,915	+21.07
Export	855	815	+4.91
Radial	407	233	+74.68
Total	30,508	28,518	+6.98
Radial	10,834	8,731	+24.09
Production	25,416	24,270	+4.72
Radial	7,851	6,307	+24.48
Ending Inventory	5,380	6,660	−19.22
Radial	2,024	2,552	−20.69

technical service and will utilize the facilities of Akron Rubber Development Laboratory for customer compound evaluation.

AMF Tire Equipment Division will distribute **Cincinnati Retread Systems'** products in the U.S. CRS designs and manufactures buffing equipment for the retread industry.

Rogers Corp. has entered a joint venture with **Inoue MTP Co. Ltd.** of Japan to manufacture and sell polymer products in the Far East. Inoue, initially, will manufacture Rogers cellular and microcellular urethanes.

Hydralign Inc. appointed **Technical Sales** of Brick Township, NJ manufacturers sales representative for New York City, Long Island and northern New Jersey and **Engineering Sales Co.**, Nashville, TN to cover the states of AL, AK, KY, MS and TN for Hydralign's web guiding systems and web handling accessories.

Montgomery Ward & Co. will sell **Bridgestone Tire** passenger tires in 525 retail and catalog outlets under an agreement reached by the two companies.

W.R. Smith and Company, Twinsburg, OH will distribute the **Continental Products Corp.'s** offset printing blanket line in the U.S.

Financial statements

Armstrong reported record first quarter earnings of $6.2 million on record sales of $162.8 million.

Asarco reported net earnings of $58.3 million on sales of $1.512 billion for 1983.

Cabot Corp. had a net income of $17.5 million for its first quarter with net sales of $399.9 million.

Carlisle Corp. had 1983 earnings of $22.6 million on sales of $411.8 million.

Compo Industries announced first quarter revenues were $24.2 million and net income was $3.9 million.

Eagle-Picher reported 1983 net income was $15.3 million on sales of $532.7 million.

Exxon estimated net income for 1983 was $4.985 billion with revenues totalling $94.591 billion.

Freeport/McMoran reported net income for 1983 was $93.4 million with net income of $65.9 million.

Gulf Corp.'s 1983 net income was $978 million and total revenues were $28.9 billion.

Lydall, Inc. reported 1983 net income of $1.4 million with net sales of $29.9 million.

Pfizer Inc. said net income for 1983 was $447 million on sales of $3.75 billion.

Rubbermaid Inc. reported record sales for 1983 of $436 million and record net earnings of $35.7 million.

Sheller Globe recorded net sales of $607.9 million with a net income of $16.6 million.

The Standard Products Co. reported record second quarter sales of $81 million and net income of $5.3 million.

Price changes

Polaroid Corp. reduced the prices of its Polathane XPE

RMA industry rubber report through November 1983 (figures are expressed in metric tons)

	Cumulative 1983	Cumulative 1982	% Change 83 vs 82
Total New Rubber			
New rubber available	2,614,956	2,419,882	8.06
Imports	799,790	704,612	13.51
Exports	283,034	294,135	−3.77
Apparent Consumption	2,337,489	2,213,363	5.61
Total Natural Rubber			
Imports	624,916	581,948	7.38
Exports	17,351	13,563	27.93
Apparent Consumption	626,706	604,600	3.66
% Total new rubber	26.81	27.31	
Total Synthetic Rubber			
Production	1,815,166	1,715,270	5.82
Imports	174,874	122,664	42.56
Exports	265,683	280,572	−5.31
Apparent Consumption	1,710,782	1,608,762	6.34
% Total new rubber	73.18	72.68	
Total SBR			
Production	831,756	809,905	2.70
Imports	58,256	50,448	15.48
Exports	78,990	81,646	−3.25
Apparent Consumption	814,045	791,735	2.82
Total Nitrile			
Production	50,005	43,044	16.17
Imports	8,599	7,305	17.71
Exports	5,768	6,083	−5.18
Apparent Consumption	52,764	47,100	12.03
Polybutadiene			
Production	302,625	271,535	11.45
Imports	44,559	27,280	63.34
Exports	15,344	13,067	17.43
Apparent Consumption	321,653	292,193	10.08
Ethylene-Propylene			
Production	161,089	117,844	36.70
Imports	614	211	191.00
Exports	27,735	25,581	8.42
Apparent Consumption	129,412	105,233	22.98
Butyl, Polyisoprene, Silicone and other Synthetic Elastomers			
Production	366,613	363,676	.81
Imports	56,265	36,179	55.52
Exports	100,919	111,086	−9.15
Apparent Consumption	313,185	305,314	2.58
Polychloroprene			
Production	103,078	109,267	−5.66
Imports	6,581	1,241	430.30
Exports	36,927	43,109	−14.34
Consumption	79,723	67,190	18.65

urethanes for quantities of 225 pounds or more by 28% as the result of improved manufacturing efficiencies.

Markets, news

Third quarter carbon black production in 1983 was the highest quarter in three years and shipments for the quarter were the best in two years according to a quarterly report from Columbian Chemicals. Third quarter production increased 18% and shipments were up 13% over the same period in 1982. Demand in all grades was up, with N-100 shipments reaching the second highest in history, within 7% of the record fourth quarter of 1972. Year to date production of 826 mmt and shipments of 845 mmt reflect an increase of 5% over 1982.

Plant inventory reduced 10% during the quarter to 78 mmt, a 3½ week supply, varying from three weeks in N-300, N-500 and N-600 to four weeks in N-200, six weeks in N-700 and eight weeks in N-100.

Consumption of dry rubber hydrocarbons totalling 588 thousand metric tons was the strongest in any third quarter since 1979, although it was 0.2% lower than the second quarter. All synthetic polymers were up from 1982, ranging from 4% in SBR to 13% in polybutadiene, 16% in polychloroprene and over 28% in nitrile and EPDM. Natural rubber's 129 mmt represented the weakest in three years. The first nine months consumption was practically unchanged at 1,773 mmt. The synthetic ratio of 78% rose to the highest in any quarter in 10 years and carbon-rubber ratio increased from 46.4 phr a year ago to 49.2 per hundred rubber. SBR black rubber production of 58 mmt was the lowest quarter in three years. Year-to-date output of 184 mmt decreased 15% from the same period in 1982.

Carbon black industry in the U.S. (metric tons)

			1983 9 months	% change '83 vs '82
N-100	(SAF)	Prod.	15,120	+18.0%
		Ship.	15,081	+16.5%
N-200	(ISAF)	Prod.	88,635	+ 9.9%
		Ship.	91,815	+11.0%
N-300	(HAF)	Prod.	360,505	+ 5.1%
		Ship.	366,125	+ 5.2%
N-500	(FEF)	Prod.	69,192	(7.9%)
		Ship	71,072	(10.7%)
N-600	(GPF)	Prod.	207,970	+ 2.8%
		Ship.	213,506	+ 5.5%
N-700	(SAF)	Prod.	84,673	+18.2%
		Ship.	86,968	+15.2%
TOTAL		Prod.	826,095	+ 5.2%
		Ship.	844,567	+ 5.4%
Domestic Shipments (Included Above)			829,560	+ 6.3%
Domestic Share			98.2%	

Firestone said that the growing demand for Firestone, Dayton and Road King tires would make it impossible for the company to meet demands of its dealers and stores while supplying private brand customers, so it is phasing out its private brand segment of the tire business.

Installation of rubber roofing on commercial and industrial buildings in 1984 will consume more than 550 million square feet of sheet rubber and generate sales of more than $275 million according to **Goodyear.**

It's a two-way street

Keeping *you* informed means keeping *us* informed. To report to you the latest in rubber industry happenings, the editors of Rubber World rely on many sources of information. One of our most important sources is you, our reader.

We welcome and encourage your input — employe newsletters, meeting reports, equipment releases, letters to the editor, phone calls. Let us know what's happening with your company; what you're thinking. We want to hear from you.

Rubber World

P.O. Box 5485
1867 W. Market St.
Akron, Ohio 44313
(216) 864-2122